Technology mission on Jute

3548. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the ministry have plans to introduce a 'Made in India' brand for promotion of Indian jute products in the overseas market;

(b) the funds allocated for proposed jute technology mission; and

(c) the aim of the mission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL) (a) No, Sir.

(b) An amount of Rs. 2.97 crores has been provided for the Jute Technology Mission in the budget estimates for 2003-04 of Ministry of Textiles.

(c) The Mission aims at different aspects of Jute related activities in the field of agriculture, industry and marketing of raw jute and finished products. The main objectives of the Mission, *inter-alia* are :

(i) To increase the productivity of jute, mesta and allied fibres by inventing superior varieties of seeds,

(ii) To create strong market linkages of raw jute and mesta by improving the existing markets infrastructure,

(iii) To increase productivity in jute industry by adopting proven technologies and modernization, and

(iv) To increase production-base of diversified jute products throughout the country and to strengthen marketing of such products by adopting appropriate marketing strategies both in overseas and domestic markets

Taxes/cess levied on different stages of production in Textile Industry

†3549. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that taxes or cess are levied at the different stages of production in textile industry in the country;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, State-wise and amount-wise taxes proposed to be levied during March, 2003 right from the sale of cotton to manufacturing readymade garments;

(c) whether certain representatives had urged Government to reduce these taxes; and

(d) if so, the decisions taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) CENVAT is leviabel on various pure cotton textile items as under :—

— Raw/ginned cotton—Nil

— Cotton yarn both in cone and hank (plain reel and cross reel) form—8% (Basic)

— Cotton knit fabrics and knitwears—8%

— Cotton woven fabrics, woven garments and made-ups—10%

Besides, the Textiles' Committee Cess is also leviable @ 0.05% on the above mentioned textile items.

(c) and (d) Representations are received from time to time from various segments of the industry for rationalization/reduction in CENVAT rates. Appropriate decisions on the suggestions made in the representations are taken keeping in view the larger interests of the industry, consumers, etc. In the Budget 2003-04, CENVAT rates in textiles across the board were reduced.

Reduction of cost of production in cotton textile industry

†3550. SHRI LAJPAT RAI :
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a need to cut down the cost of production in the cotton textiles industry of the country in order to make it efficient for successful competition in the international market;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.